

DONCASTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



THE
ANNUAL
REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1943


of the

Medical Officer of Health

A. PENMAN

M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Department, Nether Hall,
Doncaster.



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DONCASTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,

Nether Hall,

Doncaster.

August, 1944.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Doncaster Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In submitting my Annual Report on the health conditions of the District, a duty required of me by statute, I would call attention to the fact that it has been compiled in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Ministry of Health Circular 10/44 (15th February, 1944).

Mr. Reynolds, Chief Sanitary Inspector, has submitted his report, which I have appended.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the staff of the Public Health Department for their good work and loyal co-operation.

I am, Your obedient Servant,

A. PENMAN, M. D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

A. Penman, M.D., Ch.B., (University of Edinburgh)
D.P.H., R.C.P.S. (Edinburgh and Glasgow). Appointed
1935.

2. CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING
SUPERINTENDENT.

A. Reynolds, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Certificate for Inspectors
of Meat and Other Foods. Appointed 1924.

3. SENIOR ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

E. K. Smith, Cert. R.S.I., Certificate for Inspectors of
Meat and Other Foods. Appointed 1932.

4. JUNIOR ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

C. A. M. YOUNG, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Appointed 1943.

OFFICES OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Nether Hall, Doncaster.

Telephone Numbers—Doncaster 3427, 3428, 3429 (three lines)

PUBLIC CLEANSING DEPOT OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Sunnyside, Kirk Sandall.

Telephone Number—Barnby Dun 58.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	73,755
Registrar-General's Estimate of the resident civilian population	...	...	...	...	48,470
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1943) according to rate books	...	...	...	...	12,932
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£247,382
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£954

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

LIVE BIRTHS—

	M.	F.	Total	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Population—20.6
Legitimate	474	467	941	
Illegitimate	28	28	56	
	<u>502</u>	<u>495</u>	<u>997</u>	(Birth Rate for England and Wales 16.5)

STILL BIRTHS—

	M.	F.	Total	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births—36.7
Legitimate	23	12	35	
Illegitimate	3	0	3	
	<u>26</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>38</u>	

DEATHS—

M.	F.	Total	Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Population—9.3
243	206	449	

Death Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population 12.1
(Because of the difficulty of computation in war-time no comparability factor was supplied by the Registrar-General).

MATERNAL MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY.

		Doncaster Rural District	England and Wales
Incidence of Puerperal Pyrexia—			
Rates per 1,000 total (live and still) births		4.83	11.68
Mortality from—			
(a)	Abortion with sepsis	1.93	0.34
(b)	Abortion without sepsis	0.97	0.11
(c)	Puerperal infections	0.00	0.39
(d)	Other maternal causes	1.93	1.45
		<hr/> 4.83	<hr/> 2.29
Mortality per million women aged 15 to 45 years from—			
(a)	Abortion with sepsis	185	25
(b)	Abortion without sepsis	92	8

INFANTILE MORTALITY. RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.				Doncaster Rural District	England and Wales
	M.	F.	Total		
(a) Legitimate	32	21	53	55	—
(b) Illegitimate	1	0	1	18	—
				<hr/>	<hr/>
All infants	33	21	54	54	49
				<hr/>	<hr/>
Deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis under 2 years of age				4.0	5.3

GENERAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION

All Causes	9.3	12.1
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.10	0.03
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03
Influenza	0.29	0.37
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.06	0.02
Pneumonia	0.60	1.34
Tuberculosis (a) Respiratory	0.39	0.56
(b) Other Forms	0.19	0.11
Cancer	1.31	1.9
Diseases of Heart, Circulation including Intracranial Vascular Lesions	2.98	—

BIRTHS.

There were 997 live births (502 M.; 495 F.) or 2 fewer than in the previous year, giving a birth rate of 20.6 per 1,000 of the population. The birth rate for England and Wales was 16.5.

The 38 still births exceeded the 1942 figure by 5.

DEATHS.

449 deaths were recorded and the crude death rate was thus 9.3 per 1,000. The provisional estimate of the national death rate is 12.1. The age and sex distribution of the population of the Doncaster Rural District as ascertained at the 1931 census was favourable to low death rates and the crude death rate (corrected for transfers) has had to be modified by a comparability factor to compare with the national rate. No comparability factor has been supplied this year, but, presuming it to be the same as that given in 1940, the local death rate to compare with the national figure would be 12.1, which is exactly the same as the provisional estimate for England and Wales.

The principal causes of death were:—	1943	Compare with 1942
Diseases of the Heart and Circulation including		
Intracranial Vascular Lesions ...	145	121
Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Influenza, etc ...	75	60
Cancer	64	50
Tuberculosis diseases	28	23
Accidents (Road traffic, in industry, etc.)	27	29
Congenital causes (among infants) ...	19	22

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Five mothers died as a result of pregnancy and parturition.

Three deaths followed abortion, of which two were from septic complications, and a third from an operation necessary to complete parturition. One of the remaining two died during pregnancy from heart failure and eclampsia (fits due to toxæmia) and the other from embolism of the lung and heart failure following pregnancy and delivery.

Without knowing the full circumstances of the deaths following abortion it is not fair to comment on these three specifically.

One might say, however, that death from abortion is more common in this area than the average for England and Wales.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

54 Infants died in 1943 before attaining the age of 12 months. Calculated per 1,000 live births, this gives an infantile mortality rate of 54, compared with the provisional estimate of the rate for England and Wales of 49. In 1942 Doncaster Rural District had its lowest recorded infantile mortality rate, 41 per 1,000 live births. The causes of death mainly responsible for this increase in 1943 were bronchitis and pneumonia (—|— 8), tuberculous meningitis (—|— 4) and diphtheria (—|— 1). The abnormal conditions prevailing were, in my opinion, responsible for the increased number of deaths from the first two of these causes, and these abnormal conditions will disappear when hostilities cease.

Of the 54 infant deaths 19 were due to congenital causes, of which 8 were malformations and incapable of prevention. 17 deaths from bronchitis and pneumonia was a very high figure for this district.

INFANT MORTALITY RATES, 1934—1943.

Year Rate for 1,000 live births	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
	59	59	61	55	48	56	67	61	41	54

INFANT DEATHS, 1943.

Cause of Death	Total		Under 4 wks.		4 wks. to 3 mths.		3 mths. to 6 mths.		6 mths. to 9 mths.		9 mths. to 12 mths.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Measles ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (including Gastro-Enteritis) ...	2	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Premature Birth ...	8	1	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Defects (Malformations, Atelectasis, and Birth Injuries) ...	3	5	3	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility and Icterus ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Developmental and Wasting Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—
Convulsions ...	3	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	11	6	1	2	1	1	7	1	2	1	—	1
Other Causes ...	2	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
	33	21	17	10	1	3	11	3	2	3	2	2

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1943.

(Other than Tuberculosis)

Age and Sex Incidence

DISEASE	Sex	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	Over 65	Totals	Removed to Hospital	Died
Scarlet Fever	M	—	4	3	10	13	36	20	6	2	—	—	—	—	94	82	—
	F	—	2	5	8	14	50	43	4	3	—	1	—	—	130	115	—
Diphtheria	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	1
	F	—	—	1	—	2	3	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	10	10	—
Para-Typhoid Fever	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia	M	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	5	2	3	1	8	4	28	—	*19
	F	—	1	2	—	1	2	2	1	—	1	1	1	—	12	—	*10
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	†	—
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	†	—
Erysipelas	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	1	1	6	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	5	5	3
Whooping Cough	M	1	7	4	4	4	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38	—	—
	F	4	5	7	11	14	27	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	70	—	5
Measles	M	17	34	59	72	77	130	10	1	1	—	—	—	—	401	—	—
	F	16	33	46	76	69	137	10	2	3	—	—	—	—	392	—	3
Totals		45	86	128	182	196	404	95	25	14	5	7	10	5	1202	217	42
* These figures include deaths from all forms of pneumonia.																	
† These cases are reported to the County Medical Officer.																	

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES PER 1,000 OF CIVILIAN POPULATION,

NOTIFICATIONS				Doncaster Rural District	England and Wales
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	0.04	0.01
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	0.02	0.08
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	4.42	3.01
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2.23	2.54
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0.29	0.88
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0.18	0.31
Measles	...	...	...	16.38	9.88
Pneumonia	...	...	...	0.81	1.34
Smallpox	...	...	...	0.00	0.00

There were 1,202 notifications of infectious diseases (excluding tuberculosis) compared with 527 for the previous year. This is the highest yearly figure since measles and whooping cough were added to the list of notifiable cases. The number included 793 cases of measles, 108 of whooping cough and 224 of scarlet fever. The more serious infectious diseases numbered only 77.

DIPHTHERIA.

Never before has the incidence of diphtheria been so low as in 1943; There were only 14 confirmed cases, which resulted in one death. This disease has been always one of the serious problems in the district. The annual incidence since 1935 has been:—

Average 98	{	1935	...	69 cases	...	0 deaths
		1936	...	92	..	2 ..
		1937	...	113	..	7 ..
		1938	...	98	..	6 ..
		1939	...	117	..	9 ..
		1940	...	41	..	6 ..
		1941	...	41	..	3 ..
		1942	...	38	..	2 ..
		1943	...	14	..	1 ..

It is interesting to recall that immunisation against diphtheria was commenced in 1935 by the West Riding County Council in this district. At first the response was small and there was no estimate of the percentage of children of different age groups immunised. Since 1940 more intensive efforts have resulted in substantial proportions of the susceptible population being immunised. In these efforts the District Council has joined with the result that the percentage immunised has increased thus:—

Percentage of Children Immunised.

Date		Under 5 years (Possible 80)		Aged 5—15 years (Possible 100)	
31-12-40	26	...	33½
30- 9-41	25	...	35
30- 6-42	28	...	46
31-12-42	44	...	55
30- 6-43	46	...	63
31-12-43	49	...	67

In 1943 five children out of 4,300 children under five years and seven out of 9,000 children aged 5 to 15 years fell victim to diphtheria infection. All were unimmunised. One child, a baby of six months, died.

These facts prove the good effect of immunisation but the complete eradication of the disease will not be accomplished until 75% of each of the two groups have been protected. May I appeal to the parents of children still

unprotected? Apply to the nearest Child Welfare Centre, or the head teacher of the school attended by the children, or directly to me at Nether Hall, Doncaster.

SCARLET FEVER.

Tonsillitis accompanied by a scarlatinal rash is the condition which is notified to the local authority as scarlet fever. Cases of tonsillitis without rash of similar causation are not notified and precautions are thus seldom taken to limit the spread of infection in such cases. Thus as an administrative problem the control of scarlet fever is somewhat chaotic, and the present policy of automatically removing erythematous cases to hospital is only a half-measure fraught with some risk to the patients, where the major part of the isolation facilities is multi-bedded wards.

Cases of streptococcal sore throat, with or without rash, should be isolated in hospital only when the balance of advantages to the child or to the community lies in that course. The factors which should be taken into account are (1) the home conditions with regard to means of isolation and the number of susceptible contacts (2) contacts at home employed in the handling or distribution of milk (3) the severity of the case in relation to home nursing attention (4) the existence of a pregnant contact approaching term.

It has proved a lengthy procedure to obtain the modernisation of the isolation hospital in order to avert the risk of complications being acquired by simple cases, but meantime the most effective use of the present facilities could be obtained by following the method suggested. It is not a new idea. The chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health has been repeating it in his Annual Reports for many years, but the old tradition dies hard. When the cause of scarlet fever was not known, hospitalisation was practised automatically for so many years that it became an ingrained habit, and although light has now been thrown on the problem indicating more circumspect action, many are shocked that the old policy should be revised.

The number of cases of scarlet fever reported, namely 224, was the highest for many years suggesting a peak year of its cyclic variation. The case mortality was nil,

In age and sex incidence it is noteworthy that 145 cases were under 10 years of age, that only 6 over the age of 25 and that there were 130 females compared with 90 males.

ACUTE PRIMARY AND INFLUENZAL PNEUMONIA

There were 40 cases notified. The number of deaths from pneumonia was 29, but it is not known whether the pneumonia causing death was of the acute primary and influenzal types in every case.

So far in this area the number of deaths from pneumonia continues to be disappointingly high even with the advantage of the new sulphonamide drugs. Taking 1938 as the last of the pre-sulpha era, the following is the position:—

Year	No. of Deaths	Year	No. of Deaths
1934	29	1939	17
1935	22	1940	22
1936	29	1941	32
1937	24	1942	28
1938	30	1943	29
Annual Average 27.		Annual Average 26.	

These figures take no account of the severity of the weather conditions and the altered circumstances with regard to home nursing brought about by the War, but they are certainly disappointing.

The lack of hospital accommodation for the nursing of this disease has been commented upon for some years. Skilled nursing is still a very important factor in the treatment of pneumonia.

Treatment at home in the present conditions seldom means that skilled nursing is available. Hospitalisation would mean not only skilled nursing, but probably the more effective use of sulpha medication, since the proper facilities for clinical control of dosage would be available.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

793 cases of measles indicates the extent of the measles problem. That it is not serious from the point of view of mortality is shown by the fact that only three deaths are attributed to measles. About the ill-health subsequent to it, however, one cannot say the same. Too often chronic diseases of the ear, permanent damage to the eyes and predisposition to tuberculosis are thereby incurred. Parents should not regard this disease lightly because it has a low mortality rate. They should treat it with the care demanded of an ailment that has a high morbidity rate.

It would be a sound public health measure to supplement, as a routine, the district nursing service in times of and in places where it is epidemic.

Similar remarks are applicable to whooping cough, for although the numbers seldom reach the proportions of measles outbreaks, the illness often proves serious from convulsions, bronchitis and emphysema, and hospital treatment should be made available to the serious cases.

There were five deaths from whooping cough out of 108 cases reported.

SCABIES.

Facilities for the treatment of cases of this variety of skin infestation have been established at the five First Aid Posts in the District. Information concerning the existence

of scabies comes to me from school medical officers, medical practitioners, health visitors, school attendance officers and military sources. I am satisfied that sufficient effort is being made to keep the infection within control in spite of the abnormal movement of civil and military population, which creates so much opportunity for spread.

While there are seasonal fluctuations, it is found that it is possible to get whole villages free, apart from one or two families, who furnish repeated reinfestations and keep the disease alive till the next outbreak. It is generally the case that there is some carelessness or indifference on the part of the parents in such families, although they willingly allow the local authority to clean up their children. These remarks apply only to the few instances, who form the "hard core" of the problem.

It is interesting to note that few miners are notified as suffering from the disease. For them a daily bath is the rule and the *sarcoptes scabiei* does not get time to settle in its burrow.

552 cases came to our notice in 1943, of whom 95 were adults and 467 children. This represents a small decrease compared with the previous year.

At three of the first aid posts, Askern, Armthorpe, and Edlington, the work of cleansing is done on a voluntary basis and the workers there deserve a special word of thanks for their efforts.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	3
1 and under 5 yrs.	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	—
5 and under 15 yrs.	—	—	2	3	—	—	1	—
15 and under 25 yrs.	4	9	2	—	1	3	1	1
25 and under 35 yrs.	6	6	—	1	3	4	1	—
35 and under 45 yrs.	4	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
45 and under 55 yrs.	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
55 and under 65 yrs.	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over ...	4	2	1	1	—	1	1	—
Totals ...	18	19	11	8	10	9	5	4

There were 56 new cases of tuberculosis, (M. 29; F. 27) during 1943 compared with 53 in 1942, 59 in 1941, 43 in 1940, and an annual average of 66 for the five years prior to the War.

42 of the new cases were under the age of 35 when notified. There were 28 deaths (M. 15; F. 13) certified as being due to various forms of tuberculosis, no fewer than 6 being due to tuberculous meningitis. In 10 of the fatal cases no notification had been received prior to death. Three of these were cases of meningitis, which is of relatively short duration.

At the beginning of the year there were 300 cases (M. 176; F. 124) on the register and on December 31st, there were 319 (M. 191 F.128).

In 1943 the death rate per 1,000 from all forms of tuberculosis in the Doncaster Rural District was 0.58 compared with 0.67 for England and Wales.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The information given in 1942 and previous annual reports concerning Ambulance Facilities, Clinics (Infant consultation, ante-natal, tuberculosis and venereal diseases), Hospitals and Laboratory Facilities are substantially the same with the following amendments:—

AMBULANCES:

An additional service has been arranged for residents of the Doncaster Rural District by agreement with the Civil Defence Authority. The use of an ambulance or car can be obtained through a doctor or the police by telephoning Doncaster No. 2264. A charge of 5/- per journey per head is made for the service. The journeys are confined to local hospitals.

A voluntary car pool has been established at the headquarters of the Don Valley W.V.S. (Hallgate, Doncaster), for certain urgent cases, where other means of transport are not available, such as the conveyance of patients to or from hospital, or to and from any place, which has to be visited for the purpose of treatment. Telephone—Doncaster No. 3353.

Maternity cases are provided for by the West Riding of Yorkshire County Council. The midwife or doctor should telephone Doncaster 2264 for an ambulance or car and give the particulars of the journey required, etc.

HOSPITALS.

In 1943 the County Council came to an agreement with the Doncaster Corporation for the use of Hamilton Lodge Annexe, at Balby Institution, for maternity cases. Normal or abnormal cases (apart from septic) are thus dealt with at

Hamilton Lodge Annexe, Balby; Montague Hospital, Mexborough; Listerdale Maternity Home, Near Rotherham; and Lindrick Emergency Maternity Home, Near Worksop.

Septic cases are accommodated at the Isolation Hospital, Doncaster.

It is recognised that while these arrangements are not ideal, they are the best that can be provided during the War.

SECTION D.

HOUSING ACT, 1936. HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year ... 0

Inspections and Notices:—

1. Number of inspections for repairs	...	...	164
2. Number of informal notices to repair	...	...	45
3. Number of statutory notices	...	...	Nil
4. Number of houses repaired	...	...	44

29 dwellings, upon which demolition orders or undertakings not to relet were operative before the War, are still occupied. These are situated at Conisborough Parks 8, Skelbrooke 9, Wadworth 4, Old Denaby 3, Norton 3, Brodsworth 1, Barnby Dun 1. Restriction of building and wartime legislation has been responsible for this position.

In the years 1919-1939 an annual average of 240 houses were erected and in the five years ending 1939 that annual quota was 374. It is therefore a fair assumption that at least 1,250 new houses would have been built but for the War. This absence of new building, coupled with the increase of separate families and the reception of evacuees has created a serious position, the extent of which cannot be accurately gauged without a survey.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

SCHOOLS.

In no instance was it necessary to close any school department or class on account of infectious disease during the year. The exclusion of contacts of infectious disease individually was carried out as a routine in the manner indicated by the joint memorandum of the Board of Education and Ministry of Health.

Sixteen visits were made to schools in the district, but these were principally to immunise children against diphtheria.

The sanitary conditions of the schools are of a comparatively high level, even at several non-provided schools. At one of the latter, however, namely Wadworth, the conditions continue to be very unsatisfactory.

WATER SUPPLIES.

In November, 1943, Mr. P. Hempel, Engineer to the Doncaster and Tickhill Water Board, after a careful survey, which included the available records and experience of the public health department, made a report upon the availability of piped supplies in the Doncaster Rural District. The following are the main facts of his report:—

(a) There are 13,026 premises on the Rate Books. Only 774 premises are without a piped supply.

(b) Piped supplies are available in 29 of the 35 parishes. 433 houses in these parishes are not connected to the mains, but 272 of them are more than 100 yards from an available main.

(c) In 4 parishes there is no piped supply (Fenwick, Kirk Bramwith, Moss and Thorpe-in-Balne), and none of the 196 houses therefore is supplied from mains. In the two remaining parishes (Awkley and Blaxton) the Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board mains are in close proximity and supply 43 of the 188 houses, leaving 145 not supplied in this way.

In none of these extensive parishes is there any group of 20 houses situated so closely as to be within a circle of $\frac{1}{4}$ mile diameter.

(d) Where a piped supply is available 98 $\frac{3}{4}$ % of the houses are now connected. Of the 272 houses situated beyond 100 yards from the mains the great majority are at such a distance as to make it economically impracticable for a supply to be laid on.

(e) The property in the parishes where no piped supply is available represents only 2.7% of the total number of assessments within the Rural District, a remarkably low figure for an extensive rural area.

The individual well supplies in the six agricultural parishes are apt to become inadequate in dry seasons particularly where cattle have to be watered. Since 1943 was the third successive year with a rainfall much below normal, complaints were received from these parts.

Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Boards supply was sampled for bacteriological analysis on 23 occasions, all giving satisfactory results. The other supplies gave the following results:—

Doncaster Corporation 10 out of 10 satisfactory; Pilkington Brothers 6 out of 6 satisfactory; Hooton Pagnell Estate, Clayton Estate and Alverley Estate each with one satisfactory sample from one sampling.

Four private wells were similarly tested, one giving a bad result. This well supplied four houses and the owner provided a new supply from the Corporation mains.

A chemical examination of the Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board supply, dated 26th January, 1944, showed the water to be constituted thus:—

General Composition.				Parts per 100,000
Calcium Carbonate	...	...	...	6.40
Magnesium	...	...	...	4.20
Sodium Chloride	...	...	...	2.00
Sodium Sulphate	...	...	...	1.30
Silica, Iron and Alumina	...	...	...	1.00
Total Solids				14.90

(Carbonates present in solution as Bicarbonates).

Free Chlorine	...	...	...	.02
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	.0007
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	.0014
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	None
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	.20
Lead, Copper, Zinc	...	...	...	None
Oxygen, absorbed (4 hours at 80 F)	...	...	...	.011
Total Hardness (all temporary)	...	...	...	11.0
				(Grains per gallon)
pH	...	...	...	7.2

This analysis shows the water to be entirely suitable for drinking and domestic use and to be of medium hardness.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A. PENMAN, M. D.

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT.

A. REYNOLDS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

SECTION C. (Continued).

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

STATEMENT made to the Medical Officer of Health in pursuance of Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and of Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926, in relation to inspections, notices, etc.

Total number of inspections, 1943	...	...	...	4,175
Nuisances reported during 1943 (including provision of Pails and dustbins)	...	...	...	574
Nuisances in hand	...	...	...	8
Total number of nuisances	...	...	...	582
Abated during 1943	...	...	...	572
Outstanding at the end of 1943	...	...	...	10

The total inspections above relate to:—

Nuisances	718	Meat and Food:	
Common Lodging Houses	2	Butchers' Shops ...	14
Vans and Sheds ...	27	Fish and Chip Shops	12
Shops Act	120	Bakehouses ...	10
Schools	28	Infectious Diseases:	
Factories and Workshops	33	Disinfection ...	298
Drainage	187	Investigations ...	125
Public Cleansing and		Infestations:	
Salvage	1,155	Bed Bugs	62
Water Supplies:		Other vermin ...	29
Samples taken ...	46	Piggeries	24
Samples investigated	61	Foods (unsound) ...	149
Milk and Dairies:		Conversions	50
Producers' Premises	265	Rats and Mice ...	90
Retailers' Premises	66	Scabies	202
Samples	58	Air Raid Precautions	96
Housing:		Wartime Nurseries ...	6
Overcrowding ...	47	Food Decontamination	20
Section 9	164	Military Camps ...	11

INFORMAL NOTICES.

619 preliminary notices have been served relating to:—

Drainage and		Housing Repairs ...	45
Conversions ...	59	Shops	1
Nuisances, Dustbins and		Water Supplies ...	7
Pails	430	Miscellaneous ...	65
Cowsheds and Dairies	12		

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Houses disinfected ...	292
Rooms disinfected ...	448
School Notices sent ...	407

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Sections 10 and 13 (C).	
Number of visits paid	
during the year ...	120
Unsatisfactory conditions	
found	6
Remedied	6

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the year 4 Council houses were found to be infested and were treated by Council employees. Other houses, owned by industrial companies, were treated privately.

62 visits were made to houses following infestation.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, 1943.

PARISH	No. of Inhabited Houses 31-12-43	Water Closets	Pail Closets	Privy Middens	Dustbins	Dry Ashpits	Cesspools
Parishes Closely Built.							
Armthorpe	1347	1359	26	4	1476	—	5
Askern	1427	1436	3	—	1472	—	1
Barnby Dun-w-Kirk Sandall ...	1162	1202	1	7	1233	—	8
Bawtry	370	351	9	27	390	4	1
Edlington	1439	1489	17	4	1550	—	6
Rossington	1800	1755	64	5	1750	—	6
Sprotborough	1628	1725	29	11	1764	—	201
Warmsworth	557	655	16	6	582	—	—
Total ...	9730	9972	165	64	10217	4	228
Parishes Closely Built in Parts.							
Austerfield	137	110	12	19	96	2	12
Barmborough	241	183	43	24	216	—	32
Blaxton	110	53	56	3	35	6	30
Braithwell	186	139	41	23	160	2	48
Brodsworth	562	493	71	4	648	—	59
Cadeby	32	3	18	10	20	4	1
Cantley	308	268	76	39	256	6	161
Denaby (Old)	55	15	36	7	45	—	15
Marr	33	3	29	1	39	—	—
Norton	503	238	85	80	451	—	54
Wadworth	161	36	62	63	89	—	7
Total ...	2328	1541	529	273	2055	20	419
Parishes Entirely Rural.							
Adwick-on-Deerne	36	19	15	6	36	1	4
Awkley	74	4	36	30	10	—	7
Burghwallis	53	31	20	2	55	—	18
Clayton-with-Frickley	68	16	25	28	26	6	1
Conisborough Parks	85	28	29	24	43	—	12
Fenwick	45	6	13	29	19	2	1
Hampole	52	16	29	5	27	2	8
Hickleton	36	30	13	—	10	28	1
Hooton Pagnell	80	23	55	—	98	—	1
Kirk Bramwith	50	6	30	14	20	2	4
Loversall	37	8	15	14	18	—	—
Melton (High)	65	51	8	6	64	—	—
Moss	69	4	36	29	9	—	3
Owston	44	8	23	16	40	—	8
Stainton	49	17	23	9	26	—	—
Thorpe-in-Balne	31	5	18	8	6	1	1
Total ...	874	272	388	220	507	42	69
Summary:							
Parishes Closely Built	9730	9972	165	64	10217	4	228
Parishes Closely Built in Parts ...	2328	1541	529	273	2055	20	419
Parishes Entirely Rural	874	272	388	220	507	42	69
Total ...	12932	11785	1082	557	12779	66	716

Conversions during the year:—

Privies reconstructed as water closets ...	7
Privies reconstructed as pail closets	12
Pail closets reconstructed as water closets ...	5
Waste water closets to water closets	4
Water closets provided in new houses during 1943	Nil

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

There was no extension of sewers and the position with regard to sewage disposal remains the same.

All works have been maintained in a satisfactory manner and without serious complaint from the West Riding Rivers Board.

REPORT UPON PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES.

1. GENERAL.

The emptying and disposal of the contents of dustbins, pail closets, privy middens, ashpits and cesspools is now undertaken by direct labour throughout the whole area.

A complete reorganisation of the services, made in November, 1943, made it possible to incorporate the ten parishes which had not hitherto had the benefits of the Council's Public Cleansing Scheme. The Parishes referred to are Awkley, Blaxton, Cadeby, Clayton-with-Frickley, Fenwick, Hampole including Skelbrooke, Hickleton, Kirk-Bramwith, Moss and Thorpe-in-Balne. There are 574 houses in the ten parishes.

Street cleansing operates in the populous parishes of Armthorpe, Askern, Edlington, Rossington and Warmsworth.

Refuse disposal sites, either owned or rented by the Council, are situated at Askern, Armthorpe, Brodsworth, Bawtry, Cantley, Edlington, and Rossington.

Salvage is collected along with the other household refuse, with the exception of a few special collections of full or part loads made each week from industrial premises and schools.

The Public Cleansing Depot, Sunnyside, Kirk Sandall houses all the vehicles and the Council's stores. Salvaged materials are also dealt with there prior to sale.

2. VEHICLES.

The fleet of cleansing vehicles consists of eight covered refuse collectors, one open lorry and two motor vacuum cesspool emptiers, eleven in all. An additional cesspool emptying machine will be delivered early in 1945.

During the year, two Karrier "Colts" have been scrapped and replaced by two Karrier "Bantams." The Council has decided to dispense with the old vehicles, one by one. This policy has proved very sound as many of the parts taken from the scrapped vehicles have come in useful as spares for other lorries. Other parts have been reconditioned and put into service again. Having regard to the difficulty of obtaining new parts, these old spares being to hand, have kept the vehicles on the road when otherwise they would have been immobile.

3. LABOUR.

The Works Committee, with Captain Skipwith as Chairman, has met regularly during the year to deal with matters arising under The Essential Work (General Provisions) Order, 1942.

Councillor R. E. Hughes, J.P., C.C., Chairman of the Council, Captain C. G. Y. Skipwith, J.P, Chairman of the Sanitary Committee, Councillor W. A. Morris, Vice Chairman of the Sanitary Committee, and the three workmen's representatives who comprise the Committee have done very useful work in promoting goodwill and smooth working amongst the staff.

There has been difficulty in obtaining suitable labour all through the year and considering the many changes, on account of this and men leaving to join H.M. Forces the standard of service has been reasonably good.

4. SALVAGE.

COLLECTED AND SOLD DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1944.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s	d.
Paper, Cardboard, etc.	170	5	1	—	1,126	16	0
Tins	71	—	3	—	27	6	6
Scrap Iron	9	15	3	—	29	14	5
Non-Ferrous Metals		8	5	—	14	8	4
Textiles	11	8	2	—	101	13	1
Cullet	8	10	—	—	19	2	6
Rubber	4	12	3	—	11	18	6
Bones	1	17	2	—	8	5	8
	277	19	3	—	1,339	5	0
Waste paper purchased from various organisations ...	7	14	—	—	23	2	0
Total Income from Sales					1,316	3	0
The corresponding figures for the year ended 31st March, 1943, were	535	16	2	25	2,116	3	2

5. WORK PERFORMED OTHER THAN PUBLIC CLEANSING.

During the year ended 31st March, 1944, the following work has been carried out:—

	£	s	d.
For Surveyor's Department—Carting of building materials and cleansing of sewers with cesspool Machines	42	8	0
For Evacuation—Women's Voluntary Service ...	3	0	0
Total	45	8	0

6. COSTS.

The total net cost of the public cleansing services was £12,500.

SECTION E.

MILK SUPPLIES.

The number of registrations under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Part 2, (Milk and Dairies) is:—

Cowkeepers	...	226	Producer Retailers	...	58
			Retail Purveyors	...	23

There are 272 cowsheds in use.

Fifteen retail purveyors, with registered premises in neighbouring districts, are licensed to sell milk in the Rural District.

Number of cowsheds inspections	...	...	265
Number of milk premises and vehicles inspected	...	...	66
Number of Cowsheds reconstructed	...	...	3

Twenty-three samples of ordinary milk were taken from supplies produced in the Rural District. Of these fifteen were satisfactory and eight did not comply with the prescribed tests. The necessary action was taken in all cases where the samples proved unsatisfactory.

The structural conditions of the cowsheds designed for milk production are of a comparatively high standard, but many of the premises pressed into use under the campaign to “produce more milk” are unsuitable.

A marked deterioration in cleanliness and the proper handling of milk has been noted on some farms, this being partly due to the shortage of suitable labour and the pressure of outside work with much more land under the plough.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936—1938

The following Licences were issued:—

To Pasteurise Milk	...	...	...	2
Supplementary to sell Pasteurised	...	...	...	5
Supplementary to sell Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	2
Accredited—issued by the W.R.C.C.	...	...	...	7

Thirty-five samples of graded milks were tested. Of these twenty-eight were satisfactory and seven did not comply with the test. Investigations were carried out with regard to the latter.

MEAT AND FOOD.

During the year the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and were voluntarily surrendered by the owners:—

28 tins Chopped Ham	20 tins Prem	5 tins Tongue
34 tins Sausage Meat	1 tin Treet	1 lb. 6 oz. Brisket Beef
2 tins Mor	7 tins Meat Loaf	4 tins Steak and
43 tins Stewed Steak	1 tin Corned Beef	Vegetables
86 lbs. Sausage	9 tins Liver Casserole	1 tin Gallatine Roll
1 tin Rabbit	9 jars Meat Paste	5 tins Ready Meat
1 tin Party Loaf	2 tins Sandwich Rolls	13 tins Salmon
2 tins Picnic Roll	4 tins Mackerel	(Grade 3)
49 tins Pilchards	7 tins Herrings	10 jars Fish Paste
776 Fishcakes	5 tins Salmon	11 tins Sardines
1 tin Salmon (Grade 2)	(Grade 1)	48 Pickled Sardinettes
70 lbs. Fish	1 tin Craw Fish	2 tins Fishcakes
(wet fillets)	19 lbs. Marmalade	12 lbs. Syrup
178 lbs. Jam	71 tins Plums	5 tins Pineapple
5 lbs. Lemon Curd	3 tins Apricots	4 tins Pears
3 tins Damsons	1 tin Gooseberries	3 tins Prunes
4 tins Peaches	52 lbs. Prunes	1 bottle Raspberry
1 tin Grapefruit	199 tins Condensed	Essence
1 tin Rhubarb	Milk	302 tins Evaporated
26 pts. Sterilized Milk	1 tin Household Milk	Milk
175 lbs. Dried Eggs	8 pkts. of Dried Eggs	660 lbs. Cheese and
724 Eggs (shell)	187½ lbs. Bacon	Cheese Parings
14½ lbs. Margarine	6½ lbs. Lard	29¼ lbs. Butter
141 tins Beans	45 tins Soup	1 jar Peanut Butter
1 jar Beetroot	119 tins Peas	12 packets Soup
12 tins Mixed	3 lbs. Split Peas	25 tins Carrots
Vegetables	31 tins Tomatoes	2 jars Pickled Cabbage
1 lb. Piccalilli	122 lbs. Flour	16½ lbs. S.R. Flour
48 lbs. Whole Wheat	1 pkt. Quaker Wheat	2 Loaves
Flour	1 lb. 5 oz. Yeast	21 pkts. Steam
12 pkts. Wheat Flakes	1 pkt. Cremola	Puddings
261¾ lbs. Sugar	1 jar Bovril	31¼ lbs. Cocoa
15 lbs. Slabcake	14 bottles Sauce	2 tins Coffee
2 bottles Coffee	50 tins Pork Luncheon	3 jars Beetox
1 jar Marmite	Meat	2 tins Health Salts
84 tins Luncheon Meat	1 tin Tang	

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1943

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN

Causes of Death							Males	Females
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	243	206
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
3. Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	5
5. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
6. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	9
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
8. Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
9. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	10
10. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
11. Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
13. Cancer of Mouth and Gullet (M) Uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	3
15. Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
16. Cancer of all other Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	18
17. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
18. Intracranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	26
19. Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	42	44
20. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
21. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	10
22. Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	10
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
26. Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
28. Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	4
29. Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
30. Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
31. Premature Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	3
32. Con. Mal., Birth Inj., Infant. Dis.	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	6
33. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
34. Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
35. Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	4
36. All Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	17